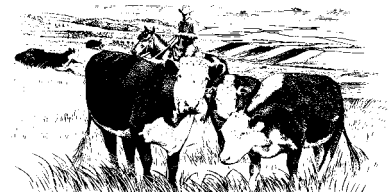


California Livestock Review



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CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 405 thousand head on March 1, 2000, 2 percent below last month, but 5 percent above March 1999. During February, placements of 50.0 thousand head were 11 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 52.0 thousand head were 30 percent above February 1999. Other disappearance totaled 8.00 thousand head.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 9 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 11.33 million head on March 1, 2000. The inventory was up 9 percent from the 10.42 million head on March 1, 1999 and 9 percent above March 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.88 million, 4 percent above 1999 and 26 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.80 million. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 351 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 476 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 596 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 457 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 2.05 million, 12 percent above 1999 and 11 percent above 1998. Other disappearance totaled 78.0 thousand during February, 20 percent above 1999 and 13 percent above 1998.

CATTLE ON FEED UP 9 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN STATES

Cattle on feed March 1, 2000 in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.70 million, up 9 percent from the previous year and 10 percent above March 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.61 million, 3 percent above 1999 and 24 percent above 1998. Marketings during February totaled 1.75 million, 12 percent above 1999 and 11 percent above 1998. Other disappearance during February was 47.0 thousand head, 12 percent above 1999, but 16 percent below 1998.

Special Note:

The year-to-year relationship for placements, marketings, and other disappearance was affected by an extra day in February 2000 due to the leap year. This extra day increased the percent change from February 1999. For example, adjusting placements to an average daily basis for the United States and historic seven states would indicate February placements only slightly above and 1 percent below 1999, respectively.

NUMBER OF CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES

NUMBER OF CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES							
State	Number on feed February 1 a/			Placed During February		Marketed During February	
	1999	2000	2000/1999	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 Head						
Arizona	202	275	136	27	27	25	24
California	385	415	108	45	50	40	52
Colorado	1,140	1,200	105	235	250	240	265
Iowa	350	385	110	56	39	45	48
Kansas	2,030	2,340	115	390	420	380	430
Nebraska	2,150	2,370	110	410	390	390	440
Texas	2,660	2,900	109	400	430	440	490
Seven-State Total	8,917	9,885	111	1,563	1,606	1,560	1,749
State	Other Disappearance During February b/		Number on Feed March 1			2000/1999	
	1999	2000	1999	2000			
	1,000 Head					Percent	
Arizona	1		3	203	275	135	
California	5		8	385	405	105	
Colorado	5		5	1,130	1,180	104	
Iowa	1		1	360	375	104	
Kansas	10		10	2,030	2,320	114	
Nebraska	10		10	2,160	2,310	107	
Texas	10		10	2,610	2,830	108	
Seven-State Total	42		47	8,878	9,695	109	

a/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

b/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR CALIFORNIA AND U.S. ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 1999	January 2000	Feb. 15, 2000	February 1999	January 2000	Feb. 15, 2000
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	97.00	75.00	89.00	79.90	71.80	72.60
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	102.00	81.00	91.00	83.70	74.10	77.40
Hogs ^{3/} ^{4/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	27.70	36.80	39.60
Cows ^{3/}	Cwt.	34.60	35.50	36.50	34.70	35.90	37.00
Steers and Heifers ^{3/}	Cwt.	62.50	67.00	67.50	63.60	71.60	70.80
Calves ^{3/}	Cwt.	81.00	91.00	96.00	86.90	102.00	105.00
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt.	30.00	30.00	31.50	30.20	36.80	---
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt.	68.50	72.00	70.00	67.20	70.90	---
Milk Cows ^{5/}	Head	---	1,480.00	---	---	1,330.00	---
Milk Whsle. ^{3/}	Cwt.	15.39	11.00	11.00	15.50	12.00	11.80

^{1/} The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

^{2/} California prices for January 2000 include a larger than normal percentage of lower quality hay sales.

^{3/} Previous month revised to monthly average.

^{4/} Price includes barrows, gilts, and sows.

^{5/} Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

CALIFORNIA HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN 19 PERCENT

California's 1999 honey production, at 30.3 million pounds, was 19 percent below 1998. Producing colonies totaled 505 thousand, up 12 percent from the previous year. Yield per colony averaged 60 pounds, compared to 83 pounds produced per colony in 1998.

U.S. HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN 7 PERCENT

Honey production in 1999 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 205 million pounds, down 7 percent from 1998. Producing colonies totaled 2.69 million in 1999, up 2 percent from 1998. The yield per colony averaged 76.3 pounds, down 7.4 pounds from the 83.7 pounds in 1998. Colonies which produced in more than one state were counted in each state, therefore, yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not counted if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 79.4 million pounds on December 15, 1999, down 2 percent from a year earlier.

HONEY PRICES DOWN 8 PERCENT

Prices for the 1999 crop averaged 59.9 cents per pound, down 8 percent from the 65.5 cents in 1998. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and co-ops. At the state level, prices reflect the portions of honey sold retail, co-op, and private. At the U.S. level, prices for each color are derived by weighting quantities sold for each marketing channel. Co-op and private prices were lower for all color classes in 1999.



HONEY PRODUCTION FOR TOP FIVE STATES AND U.S. ^{1/}

State	Number of Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production		Average Price Per Pound ^{2/}		Value of Production	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000		Lbs.		1,000 Lbs.		Cents		\$1,000	
California	450	505	83	60	37,350	30,300	62	53	23,157	16,059
Florida	230	228	98	102	22,540	23,256	64	53	14,426	12,326
Minnesota	140	145	79	82	11,060	11,890	65	61	7,189	7,253
N. Dakota	230	255	128	105	29,440	26,775	63	59	18,547	15,797
S. Dakota	225	224	95	104	21,375	23,296	64	60	13,680	13,978
U.S. ^{3/}	2,633	2,688	84	76	220,316	205,228	66	60	147,254	125,422

^{1/} For producers with five or more colonies.

^{2/} Prices weighted by sales.

^{3/} Beginning in 1998, U.S. total production is the sum of state production. U.S. colonies multiplied by U.S. yield may not exactly equal U.S. production.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during February 2000 totaled 83.6 million pounds (dressed weight), 5 percent below last month, but 7 percent above February 1999. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In February 2000, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,237 pounds; calves, 154 pounds; and hogs, 213 pounds.

U.S. COMMERCIAL MEAT PRODUCTION SET RECORD HIGHS

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.77 billion pounds in February, up 7 percent from the previous record high for February of 3.54 billion pounds produced in 1999.

February 1999 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. February 2000 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.17 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year and 6 percent higher than the previous record high for February set in 1996. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.94 million head, up 8 percent from 1999. The average live weight, at 1,225 pounds, was up 4 pounds from the previous year.

Veal production totaled 18.0 million pounds, 6 percent above February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 95.0 thousand head, down 5 percent from February 1999. The average live weight was 318 pounds, 32 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.55 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous record high for February set last year. Hog kill totaled 8.07 million head, 2 percent above 1999. The average live weight, at 261 pounds, was 2 pounds above the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 20.0 million pounds, was equal to the previous record low for February set a year ago. Sheep slaughter totaled 293 thousand head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, FEBRUARY 1998-99 1/

Species & Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 Head		1,000 Lbs.		Lbs.	
CATTLE						
California	73.9	80.9	93,925	100,036	1,271	1,237
U.S. Total	2,722.5	2,937.1	3,324,180	3,598,357	1,221	1,225
CALVES						
California	14.1	11.2	1,778	1,717	126	154
U.S. Total	99.8	95.1	28,511	30,190	286	318
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	----	----	----	----	----	----
U.S. Total	299.5	293.0	40,513	40,417	135	138
HOGS						
California	187.6	181.3	39,782	38,680	212	213
U.S. Total	7,907.7	8,067.3	2,044,799	2,108,491	259	261
RED MEAT	February 1999	January 2000	February 2000	Feb. 00 Feb. 99	Feb. 00 Jan. 00	
	Million Lbs.			Percent		
California	81.2	88.3	83.6	103	95	
U.S. Total	3,536.6	3,784.5	3,767.3	107	100	

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal-inspection and other commercial slaughter, but excludes farm slaughter.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION IN 1999

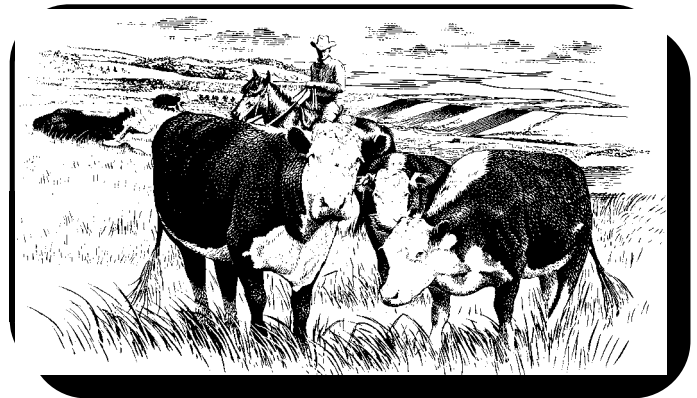
California production of red meat during 1999 totaled 1.06 billion pounds, 2 percent above last year's production of 1.04 billion pounds. The month of March 1999 had the largest red meat production at 93.9 million pounds.

Red meat production in commercial plants and on farms for the United States totaled 46.3 billion pounds in 1999. This was 2 percent higher than the previous record high set in 1998. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 46.1 billion pounds.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION BY MONTH 1/

Month	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Million Lbs.			
January	90.1	89.0	3,835.6	3,832.9
February	79.4	81.2	3,476.3	3,536.6
March	83.1	93.9	3,725.9	4,017.1
April	83.4	89.6	3,701.1	3,822.4
May	80.3	85.3	3,580.1	3,603.3
June	86.5	88.9	3,731.9	3,940.2
July	87.9	85.4	3,781.2	3,780.7
August	88.6	89.2	3,769.5	3,910.2
September	92.5	88.0	3,828.4	3,932.5
October	92.4	89.1	4,034.8	4,000.7
November	87.5	88.9	3,724.7	3,891.8
December	91.6	91.7	3,943.7	3,862.2
TOTAL	1,043.2	1,060.3	45,133.1	46,130.3

1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton, but excludes farm slaughter.



MARKETING-YEAR AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
		1998	1999	1998	1999
		Dollars			
Hogs	Cwt.	34.00	35.10	34.40	30.30
Cows 1/	Cwt.	32.90	34.80	33.70	35.10
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	61.50	64.30	62.80	66.90
Calves	Cwt.	70.90	79.10	78.80	87.70
Sheep	Cwt.	30.50	28.70	30.60	31.10
Lambs	Cwt.	74.80	74.80	72.30	74.50
Milk Cows	Head	1,270.00	1,380.00	1,120.00	1,280.00

1/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.